



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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For Immediate Release: January 22, 2009

**DLNR ANNOUNCES 2009 OPEN FISHING SEASON FOR
RAINBOW TROUT AT KOKE'E PUBLIC FISHING AREA, KAUA'I**

LIHU'E – The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) announces an open fishing season for rainbow trout in the Koke'e Public Fishing Area (PFA), Kaua'i, beginning on Monday, June 1, 2009.

Anglers may fish daily during the daylight hours between sunrise and sunset from June 1 to September 30, 2009.

"We are announcing the season opening early to allow fishers to make travel plans in advance," said Laura H. Thielen, DLNR chairperson. "The opening in June will coincide with Hawai'i's year-round public school schedule."

"Trout fishing at Pu'u Lua Reservoir in Koke'e has always been a popular family activity and anglers will have a chance to catch more than 20,000 stocked trout, which should weigh one pound by opening day," Thielen said.

"Trout just love the rain and cold we've been having at Koke'e. Fishing should be good this year," she said.

Last year, about 2,500 anglers caught over 6,000 trout which averaged 11 inches in length and 11 ounces. The largest trout caught was reportedly about 20 inches in length and weighed 5 pounds.

Anglers must have a valid State of Hawai‘i freshwater game fishing license. Licenses may be obtained at DLNR offices, at selected fishing supply stores, licensed agents, or purchased online at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar>.

The daily bag limit is ten (10) rainbow trout per licensed angler. Anglers shall fish with only one pole and line, or with one line with one lure or one baited hook attached to one line. The use of treble hooks is prohibited.

The complete rules for fishing for rainbow trout at Koke‘e PFA are in Chapter 13-64, Hawai‘i Administrative Rules, and can be found on the DLNR website listed above, or by calling any Division of Aquatic Resources office.

Anglers should be aware that a 4-wheel drive vehicle is recommended for driving to all main fishing areas, including Pu‘u Lua Reservoir, the streams and the ditch systems.

All anglers are required to check in and out at established check-in stations as follows:

- 1) Pu‘u Lua Reservoir’s two stations at the parking area and at the reservoir intake while fishing at the Reservoir;
- 2) Koke‘e Park headquarters for the Koke‘e streams and ditch systems and access through Camp Ten and Halemanu Roads;
- 3) Trail 2 for the lower ditch systems.

For further information or the current list of license agents, please call the DLNR Division of Aquatic Resources offices on O‘ahu at 832-5009, or on Kaua‘i at 274-3344.

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Photo caption: Last May angle angler Arthur Keale caught rainbow trout weighing 3 lb 10 oz., 2-1/2 lbs and 2 lbs (last two pictured).

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